

**IN THE
SUPREME COURT
OF
THE STATE OF ILLINOIS**

Order entered September 28, 2018.

(Deleted material is struck through, and new material is underscored.)

Effective October 1, 2018, Illinois Supreme Court Rule 41 is amended, as follows.

Amended Rule 41

Rule 41. Judicial Conference

(a) Duties. There shall be a Judicial Conference to consider the work of the courts, and to suggest improvements in the administration of justice. ~~The Judicial Conference shall be the body to strategically plan for the Illinois judicial branch, and to make recommendations for the improvement of the courts.~~

(b) Membership.

(1) The membership of the Judicial Conference shall consist of 29 members as follows:

(A) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, who shall preside over the conference as chairperson;

(B) A justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois; ~~The other members of the Supreme Court, who shall be ex officio members of the conference, and the Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, who shall also be an ex officio member;~~

(C) The Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts;

(D) An appellate court judge;

(E) The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County;

(F) The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Conference of Chief Circuit Judges;

(G) A judge who is a member of the Illinois Judicial College Board of Trustees;

(H) A judge who is a member of the Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice;

(I) Seven judges as follows: three judges from the First Judicial District and one judge from each of the other four Judicial Districts;

(J) Three clerks of court, at least two of whom shall be circuit court clerks;

(K) Three trial court administrators or court administrative staff;

(L) Three attorneys licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois;

(M) Three members of the public; and

(N) A person who is not a judge but who is involved with the judicial branch or administration of justice.

~~The chairperson of the Executive Committee of the Appellate Court of the First Judicial~~

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District and the presiding judge of the appellate court in each judicial district other than the First Judicial District;

— (D) Thirty judges from the First Judicial District, including the chief circuit judge;

— (E) Ten judges from each judicial district other than the First Judicial District, including at least one chief circuit judge from each judicial district;

— (F) The Supreme Court may appoint any judge, lawyer, or person involved with the judicial branch or administration of justice as an advisor to the Judicial Conference.

(2)(A) All members shall be appointed by the Supreme Court except those members serving on the Judicial Conference by nature of their position designated in subparagraphs (b)(1)(A), (C), (E), and (F) designated in subparagraphs (1)(D), (E) and (F) shall be appointed by the Supreme Court.

(B) All members serving on the Judicial Conference by nature of their position designated in subparagraphs (b)(1)(A), (C), (E), and (F) shall serve on the Judicial Conference so long as they hold that position. Of the remaining members appointed by the Supreme Court, one-third shall initially be appointed to a two-year term, one-third shall initially be appointed to a three-year term, and one-third shall initially be appointed to a four-year term. All members appointed or reappointed following these inaugural terms shall serve three-year terms. Other than the inaugural membership, no member may serve more than two consecutive three-year terms (six years), subject to the discretion of the Supreme Court. One-third of the initial members appointed by the Court from the First Judicial District shall serve until January 1, 1994; one third shall serve until January 1, 1995; and one third shall serve until January 1, 1996, or until their successors are appointed. In each of the other judicial districts, four of the initial members appointed by the Court shall serve until January 1, 1994; three shall serve until January 1, 1995; and three shall serve until January 1, 1996, or until their successors are appointed. Each term thereafter shall be for three years subject to the discretion of the Supreme Court, and no member or advisor may be appointed to more than two full consecutive terms (six years) subject to the discretion of the Supreme Court.

(c) **Other Committees, Task Forces, and Work Groups.** ~~Executive Committee.~~ Subject to the approval of the Supreme Court, the Judicial Conference may establish such other committees, task forces, and work groups as are necessary to further the work of the conference.

(d) **Meetings of Conference.** The conference shall meet at least once annually at a place and on a date to be designated by the Chief Justice.

(e) **Administration.** Under the direction of the Chief Justice, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts shall staff the Judicial Conference.

— (1) The Supreme Court shall appoint six members of the conference from the First Judicial District and two members from each of the other districts to serve on the Executive Committee, which shall act on behalf of the conference when the conference is not in session.

— (2) The Chief Justice shall serve as chairperson of the committee, and shall convene the committee as necessary to attend to the business of the conference.

— (3) At least 60 days prior to the date on which the Judicial Conference is to be convened

the committee shall submit to the Supreme Court a suggested agenda for the annual meeting.

~~— (d) Other Committees. The Supreme Court shall appoint such other committees as are necessary to further the work of the conference. The Executive Committee shall annually receive from each committee a recommendation as to whether that committee should be maintained or abolished and make appropriate recommendations to the Supreme Court. Each recommendation shall be accompanied by a justification for the recommendation.~~

~~— (e) Meetings of Conference. The conference shall meet at least once annually at a place and on a date to be designated by the Supreme Court.~~

~~— (f) Secretary. The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts shall be secretary of the conference.~~

Amended effective July 1, 1971; amended March 1, 1993, effective immediately; amended September 23, 2008, effective immediately; amended Oct. 11, 2012, effective immediately; amended Oct. 4, 2013, eff. Nov. 1, 2013; amended Dec. 9, 2014, eff. Oct. 1, 2014, *nunc pro tunc*; amended Sept. 28, 2018, eff. Oct. 1, 2018.

Committee Comments

(Revised July 1, 1971)

~~— This is former Rule 56-1, as amended January 25, 1966, with minor language changes.~~

~~— Subparagraph (b) was amended in 1971 to delete the reference to “associate judges” of the circuit courts. Prior to the adoption of the 1970 Constitution, associate judges of the circuit court, as elected judges, were members of the Judicial Conference, but magistrates were not. Under the 1970 Constitution all elected judicial officers are called judges, and appointive judicial officers formerly called “magistrates” are called “associate judges.” The 1971 amendment reflects this change in terminology.~~

(Sept. 28, 2018)

On Sept. 28, 2018, the Supreme Court reconstituted the Illinois Judicial Conference into an active strategic planning and policy body for the judicial branch of the State of Illinois. Through strategic planning and in consultation with those who work in and with the judicial branch, the Judicial Conference will develop and implement the judicial branch’s mission, values, and goals in order to achieve sustainable court governance, a more uniform court system, and an impartial, accessible, and efficient justice system.